TESTIMONY BEFORE THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION STEEL WIRE GARMENT HANGERS

Good Afternoon. I am Walter Slezak. I am the General Manager for United Wire Hanger Corp. I am a mechanical engineer and started with United Wire Hanger in 1991 as the plant engineer at our Hasbrouck Heights, New Jersey facility. In 1998, I became the Plant Manager and remained in that position until the closing of the production facility in 2006. In 2007, United Wire Hanger sold its production equipment to Chinese company. It was my responsibility to supervise the teardown and transport of the production equipment from our New Jersey facility. As part of the sale, I also traveled to China to supervise the set-up and installation of this equipment.

Shifting production facilities is an easy procedure. All the equipment have small footprints and are easily loaded and shipped in containers. We were able to teardown and dissemble 140 pieces of production equipment and have them on the water ready to ship within 4 days. I set-up the equipment and the Chinese Company was able to begin full operation and started shipping merchandise within two and one-half months from the time that the containers were unload. The equipment requires no specialized training and a person with no experience can be trained to work on the equipment in a matter of hours. In fact, the most complicated element in setting up the equipment in China was converting the production equipment to match China's electrical voltage rate. Now that the voltage has been changed, however, it its even easier to move the production facilities to another country, such as Vietnam.

Since the preliminary determination, we already have seen a shift in production away from China to other countries, such as Vietnam. This month, I visited a Vietnamese factory that up until May of this year did not exist. Thus, the Vietnamese factory was set-up and was ready

for production in less than 2 months. This facility has an estimated production capacity of 60 containers a month, and based on my experience has the space to increase this capacity by 40 percent. This factory is a fully integrated wire drawing facility, which imports its steel wire rod from China. From the following photos you can see the production facilities and equipment.





































